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Docket No.: NOS-113

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| Applicants: | Martin FLEISCHANDERL, et al. |
| Title: | METHOD FOR PRODUCING A HARDENED STEEL PART |
| Claiming Priority to: | PCT/EP2004/006251 |
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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT A

Mail Stop PCT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Please amend the English language translation of the above-identified patent application as follows to place this U.S. Patent Application in better condition for examination:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks are provided on page 10 of this paper.